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## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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### ***REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROPOSALS***

Los Alamos, NM- The Consortium of Major LANL Subcontractors is currently accepting grant applications for economic development grants in the areas of youth entrepreneurship and industry cluster development in the counties of Sandoval, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Taos, San Miguel, and Mora and the eight northern Pueblos.

The youth entrepreneur grants, ranging between \$3,000-5,000, will assist regional programs which work with young people, ages 13 to 22, in building their entrepreneurship skills and developing businesses. The industry cluster grants will support technical service providers such as commercial kitchens, small business incubators, formalized cluster groups, cluster associations, small business technical assistance providers and micro-lenders. Cluster grants should range between \$10,000-15,000.

Applicant organizations must have (1) a demonstrated track record of diversifying the economy in one or more of these rural counties; (2) an implemented long term sustainability strategy; and (3) proven & diverse community support.

The **Consortium of Major LANL Subcontractors** (Consortium) is a collaborative where the Major Subcontractors pool their individual corporate resources designated for the diversification of Northern New Mexico's economy. The Consortium's **Economic Development Grant Pool**, established in April, provides each Consortium member with a Consortium-directed mechanism by which the Subcontractors collectively can make high-impact investments in the region's economic development.

Detailed grant information and the application requirements are available on [www.bizport.org](http://www.bizport.org) or by emailing [Ashley@rdcnm.org](mailto:Ashley@rdcnm.org).